

INFORMATION BULLETIN

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT

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TO: WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

SUBJECT: BUILDING WORKFORCE PARTNERSHIPS CONFERENCE

This information bulletin announces the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, Workforce and Economic Development Program's 14th Annual "Building Workforce Partnerships" Conference to be held in San Diego, California, on June 28-30, 2006, at the Kona Koi Resort, located at Shelter Island, San Diego.

Each year, the "Building Workforce Partnerships" Conference brings together a diverse group of people who care about good jobs, a strong California economy and ensuring economic opportunity for workers. "Building Workforce Partnerships" is ultimately about partnership - no one union, organization, or entity can alone address the challenges facing working families or the workforce needs of industries. The event provides a unique forum for union leaders, labor program operators, academics, local and State Workforce Investment Board members and staff, community based organizations, Rapid Response teams, and High-Road employers to network, learn from each other and share successful models and practices. The content challenges participants to rethink the roles of community organizations, government, labor and the private sector in leveraging workforce and economic development to strengthen key industries, save good jobs and build communities.

Building on previous conferences, this year's "Building Workforce Partnerships" will feature internationally recognized economists, speakers, authors, and policy experts. Acclaimed author Jeremy Rifkin will deliver the keynote address.

Workshops will be delivered in three tracks:

- **Rapid Response/Layoff Aversion:** Sessions cover a broad range of topics, including layoff aversion strategies; developing early warning systems; WARN compliance and the elements of response; leveraging diverse resources; labor/management committees and workers committees; peer counseling; connecting economic development and rapid response; and more.
- **Apollo:** The Apollo Alliance is coalition of community organizations; labor, business and environmental groups dedicated to the development of alternative energy sources, sustainable economic development, and job creation. Workshops feature successful initiatives from around the country. Emphasis will be on retooling existing

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industries for clean manufacturing, distribution and construction, and utilizing workforce and economic development tools for business retention, attraction and retention.

- **High-Road Labor/Management Partnerships and Industry-Sector Initiatives:** The contribution of labor and management to workforce development programs in California is not well understood. This workshop track will profile, dissect and demonstrate the effectiveness of successful High-Road sector partnerships from around the country.
- **Additional Workshops:** In addition to the tracks above, the event will feature workshops on key topics, such as: the use of self-sufficiency standards, serving Limited English Proficient Workers, role of union apprenticeship in skill development, connecting education and work, accessing state and federal workforce and economic development dollars, federal and state policy, etc.

To register for Building Workforce Partnerships or for additional conference information, go to: www.calaborfed.org/workforce/wedconf.html. Conference and hotel space is limited, so please register soon. Hotel rooms must be secured before May 10, 2006.

If you have any questions, please contact Ellen Baughman, at (510) 663-4087 or e-mail ebaughman@calaborfed.org.

/S/ BOB HERMSMEIER
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